

Illinois Economic Recovery Commission



Preliminary Recommendations and Discussion

January 12, 2010

2:00pm

Illinois Economic Recovery Commission

Mission: Provide guidance and strategies for dealing with the current economic downturn, and assist in developing plans to ensure the long-term health and prosperity of the Illinois economy.

Co-Chairs

- Alex Rorke
- John Spring

Consultants

- Executive Service Corps of Chicago
- John Brodson, project manager

Governor's Office Staff

- Greg Wass
- Jen Weisensee

ERC Committees

1. Education
2. Global Markets
3. Government
4. Infrastructure
5. Innovation
6. Sustainability

Education Committee

“Build the Brains; Stop the Drain”

Mission: Develop education-based initiatives to promote job creation in Illinois.

Commissioners

- Judith Gethner, Chair
- Mohina Ahluwalia
- Gino Bonanotte
- Ross Glickman
- Marty Singer
- Shelley Stern
- Ava Youngblood

ESC Consultants

- Heidi Biederman
- Pam Pound

Graduate Student Research

- Adam Slade
- Qian Wang

Stop the drain of knowledge workers and future-oriented businesses

- Align educational programs with public policy imperatives.
- Exploit university-based resources to develop and retain technology businesses and knowledge workers.
- Establish Illinois as a Center of Excellence for supply to the military and defense industries, utilizing state and university resources.

Build the brains of the Illinois workforce for New Economy jobs

- View education – primary, secondary, post-secondary and vocational – as a single process with multiple checkpoints.
- Partner with business to develop P-20 educational objectives to align with public policy initiatives and provide incentives that keep our best talent from leaving Illinois.
- Facilitate statewide creativity and innovation in curriculum development and delivery with the ultimate goal of developing productive citizens.

Global Markets Committee

Mission: Attract foreign companies to Illinois; promote Illinois exports.

Commissioners

- Chuck Bernardini, Chair
- Dennis Cradit
- Wade Miquelon
- Jim Reynolds
- Greg Webb
- Doug Whitley

ESC Consultants

- Margo Sorgman
- Satish V. Joshi

Graduate Student Research

- Ioana Dumea

Global Markets Recommendations (1)

- Export and attraction of foreign investment need to be a priority for the Illinois Department of Commerce and Economic Opportunity (DCEO), as they are the future of Illinois' economy.
- The Illinois Trade Office (ITO) of DCEO needs to reposition itself as a proactive marketing organization for Illinois.
- The ITO needs to work closely with the “multiplier” organizations in Illinois whose interests coincide with the role of ITO.

Global Markets Recommendations (2)

- Move away from the model of physical foreign state offices and towards a model of collaboration with selected multiplier organizations – for better focus on target markets, at lower cost, with more flexibility.
- The ITO should be the official and sole state entity receiving state dollars to promote Illinois abroad and receive foreign delegations and investors.
- Recognize the value of the state's five International Trade Centers, by promoting them and directing resources to them.

Government Committee

Mission: Analyze the State's budget, tax structure and regulatory environment as they relate to the future of the Illinois economy. Given the State's current budget constraints, these are critical areas of exploration regarding the potential reallocation of, and growth in, fiscal resources.

Commissioners

- Dennis Chookaszian, Chair
- Joseph Persky
- Quintin Primo III
- Ken Robbins
- Jerry Roper
- Elaine Weiss

ESC Consultant

- Ron Messina

Graduate Student Research

- Molly Culhane
- Kevin Ryan
- Sridhar Ayala

Government Committee Recommendations

- Address state's structural deficit through changes to individual income tax, corporate income tax and sales tax
- Reduce expenditures in the state's general revenue fund
- Address unfunded liabilities through structural and regulatory changes including pensions and benefits, Medicaid, and revenue distribution

Infrastructure Committee

Mission: Use the State of Illinois' authority to facilitate or make investments that lower the cost of living and doing business and increase productive connectivity to improve both the short-term economic situation and the state's longer-term prospects for a sustainable recovery.

Commissioners

- Scott Bernstein, Chair
- Marvin Bembry
- Robert Blackwell, Jr.
- Omar Duque
- Chris Melvin

ESC Consultants

- Joseph Ross
- John Donaker, Jr.

Graduate Student Research

- Joan Hollick

Infrastructure Principles

- Make the most of existing resources
- Alignment and joint investment
- Readiness counts
- Look to the future through a systematic double bottom-line approach

Infrastructure Recommendations

- Intercity transportation networks
- Local and regional transportation networks
- Energy infrastructure and efficiency
- Green infrastructure (water and sewers)
- Broadband networks
- Cross-cutting initiatives

Innovation Committee

Mission: Support innovation as a driver of economic recovery. Develop and maintain businesses in high growth areas that will result in significant job creation.

Commissioners

- Sona Wang, Chair
- George Burciaga
- Ellen Carnahan
- Anders Gustafsson
- Hedy Ratner
- Lee Shapiro

Consultant

- Irving Miller

Graduate Student Research

- Tom Jacks

What do all these companies have in common?



BlueCross BlueShield of Illinois
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Innovation Recommendations

- Take bold action to invest more aggressively in new business creation in potential Target Growth Industries (TGI).
- Expand the supply of seed and early stage venture capital.
- Create a “culture of innovation” where entrepreneurs will thrive.

Response to Innovation

- Focus on minority, women-owned, and traditional small businesses.
- Major challenges to be addressed by changes in public policy, legislation and administrative initiatives include:
 - Health care costs
 - Managing taxes
 - Accessing new markets – federal, state, local government and private sector contracts
 - Accessing debt and equity capital
 - Access to technical assistance and resources to build capacity

Sustainability Committee

Mission: Recommend policies that incent economic growth, decrease unemployment , attract new business enterprise, strengthen and retain existing business and ensure long term economic stability while protecting the integrity of the environment

Commissioners

- Hank Eisenga, Chair
- Mike Carrigan
- Jacky Grimshaw
- Zach Hoffman
- Terry Mazany
- Matthew Wetstein

Consultants

- Ken Yoshitani
- Don Schwarz

Graduate Student Research

- Betsy Soehren-Jones

Sustainability Recommendations

- Power generation
 - Wind
 - Nuclear
 - Solar
 - Hydro
- Energy transmission
 - Extra high voltage transmission infrastructure
- Energy distribution and efficiency
 - Energy efficiency projects
 - Energy efficiency incentives and financing
 - Biomass, solid waste, and recycling